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Carver, Thomas N. *Principles of Rural Economics.* Pp. xx, 386. Price, \$1.30. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1911.

This book is an economic and literary treat. The author is professor of political economy in Harvard University and, as is well known, is perfectly capable of handling in a masterful manner any phase of the history and theory of political economy. There may be some question, however, at first sight as to the author's presumption in dealing with so difficult a subject as the whole range of rural economy and social life; but he disposes of this objection in his preface by showing that he grew up on a farm in the upper Mississippi Valley, later farmed independently on the Pacific coast, traveled extensively in this country and in Europe studying farming and farm life, and "has been for several years teaching the subject of rural economics to classes varying in size from seventy-five to a hundred students in Harvard University." The author must be regarded, therefore, as perfectly capable of handling his theme from the historical, theoretical and practical points of view.

The subject of rural economics is discussed under the following chapter: General principles, historical sketch of modern agriculture, the factors of agricultural production, management as a factor in agricultural production, the distribution of the agricultural income and, lastly, the problems of rural social life. Each chapter is discussed by divisions and by topics, so that, while it may be taken up and read by anyone interested in the rural problems of to-day, it may be used as a textbook in rural economy for which its preparation was undoubtedly primarily intended.

The book is by no means technical in nature, and, while it is plain that the author is familiar with the technique of agriculture, it is so simply and clearly expressed that the ordinary reader will have no difficulty in following the arguments. Nor is there anything one-sided about this volume. Both the advantages and disadvantages of country life are pointed out, but the importance of the agricultural industry to our national welfare is never lost to view. Hence, the author speaks with no uncertain sound as to the fads and fancies of much of our political and social life, and his shafts of witticism, satire and sound common sense irrigate an otherwise apparently dry subject and put new life into political economy. If every professor of political economy in the country would procure a copy of this book, thoroughly digest its contents, imbibe its spirit of optimism and incorporate its teachings into class-room work, never again would it be said that political economy is the "dismal science." It is possible that the reviewer's predilection for country life and surroundings makes him over-zealous in this regard, but he cannot help feeling that Professor Carver saw a great light, moved out of the valley of dry bones, and is bearing a common-sense, earnest message to his fellow-professors, to students and to thoughtful citizens regarding the great industry of agriculture and its importance to our future national life.

At the same time, there is one slight criticism which the reviewer would mention—namely, that the section on "agricultural education" (p. 115) could be improved by adding information regarding the farmers' institutes, com-

munity high schools and other newer features of agricultural extension work which are growing factors of educational rural life; and that the subject of co-operation (pp. 274, 278), in view of its economic importance, is worthy a little more space than it now receives.

A good bibliography and a fair index round out the contents of this little volume, which, in view of its subject matter, as well as its method of treatment, it is to be hoped will have a wide circulation among all classes of intelligent readers.

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The Catholic Encyclopedia. Volumes ix, Pp. xv, 800; x Pp. xv, 800; xi Pp. xv, 799; xii Pp. xv, 800. Price, \$6.00 per vol. New York: Robert Appleton Company, 1911-12.

The rapidity with which this work is being brought out is shown by the appearance of four new volumes in the last sixteen months, leaving but three more to complete the fifteen volumes of the series. These recent publications, covering the subjects from *Laprade* to *Reuss*, fully maintain the high reputation of the earlier ones for scholarly treatment and the inclusion of a wide range of subjects. No description of the plan of the work is required at this late day, nor is there need of any general terms of praise in view of the universally favorable reception of the earlier portions by both American and European reviewers. A better idea of the scope and value of the recent volumes can be given by enumerating a few of the more important subjects treated therein.

Among the church institutions taken up are the *Mass*—its liturgy being treated by Dr. Fortescue, of Hertfordshire, England; its music by Dr. Henry, of Philadelphia, and the sacrifice of the Mass, its dogma, history and the practical questions concerning it, ably discussed by Prof. Pohle, of the University of Breslau; the article *Legate* is prepared by Dr. Cerretti, Auditor of the Apostolic Delegation at Washington, and *Nuncio* by Prof. Kirsch, of the University of Fribourg; general monastic institutions are treated under *Monasteries*, *double*, by G. C. Alston, of Downside Abbey; *Suppression of Monasteries*, by J. M. Besse, Director of the "Revue Mabillion," and Dr. Gasquet, Abbot President of the English Benedictines; *Monasticism in the West*, by G. R. Huddleston, *in the East*, by F. J. Bacchus and Dr. Fortescue; *Mendicant Friars*, by L. Oliger; *Nuns*, by Prof. Vermeersch, of Louvain; *Preachers* (Dominicans), by Dr. Mandonnet, Rector of the University of Fribourg; and *Military Orders*, by Prof. Moeller, of Louvain. *Propaganda* is an unusually instructive article by Mgr. Benigni, giving the history, organization and methods of procedure of this most important of the Roman Congregations; while under *Pope* the institution of the papacy is given full treatment by G. H. Joyce, of St. Asaph, Wales, though rather from a theological than a historical point of view.

Under legal institutions are to be found such topics as *Canon Law* by Prof. Boudinhon, of Paris; *Civil Law as Influenced by the Church*, by Dr.